

a) a code allocating section to allocate a code to the requested character information;
a control section to control creation of character information, based on the requested character information, within the character information creating terminal equipment; and
a setting section setting created character information with respect to the allocated code.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The character processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a2 a distributing section distributing the created character information to the input terminal equipments.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A character processing system, comprising:
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at least one input terminal equipment; and
a character processing apparatus coupled to the at least one input terminal equipment via a network,
said input terminal equipment comprising a requesting section requesting character information, which relates to an external character, with respect to the character processing apparatus, said character processing apparatus further comprising an allocating section allocating a code to the character information requested by the requesting section;
a first notifying section notifying the code to the input terminal equipment;
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cont. a creating section creating character information based on the requested character information; and
a second notifying section notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment.

6. (ONCE AMENDED) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipment when the code is allocated by said allocating section.

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7. (ONCE AMENDED) A character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first notifying section notifies the code to the input terminal equipment after said creating section creates the created character information.

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10. (ONCE AMENDED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes at least one input terminal equipment, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

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receiving by the character processing apparatus a request for character information which relates to an external character from the input terminal equipment;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

controlling, by the character processing apparatus, creation of character information, based on the character information, in the creating terminal equipment; and

setting created character information with respect to the allocated code by the character processing apparatus.

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12. (ONCE AMENDED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes at least one input terminal equipment, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

requesting character information which relates to an external character from the input

terminal equipment with respect to the character processing apparatus;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

notifying the code to the input terminal equipment by the character processing apparatus;

creating character information, based on the requested character information, by the character information creating terminal equipment; and

notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment by the character processing apparatus.

14. (ONCE AMENDED) A character processing method adapted to a character processing system which includes at least one input terminal equipment, a character processing apparatus, and a character information creating terminal equipment, which are coupled via a network, comprising:

requesting character information which relates to an external character from the input terminal equipment with respect to a character processing apparatus;

allocating a code to the requested character information by the character processing apparatus;

creating character information, based on the requested character information, by the character information creating terminal equipment; and

notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment by the character processing apparatus.

16. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to at least one input terminal equipment and a character information creating terminal equipment

via a network, to carry out a plurality steps, comprising:

receiving a request for character information which relates to an external character from the input terminal equipment;

allocating a code to the requested character information;

controlling creation of character information, based on the requested character information, in the character information creating terminal equipment; and

setting created character information with respect to the allocated code.

18. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to at least one input terminal equipment via a network, to carry out a plurality of steps, comprising:

receiving character information which relates to an external character and is requested from the input terminal equipment;

allocating a code to the requested character information;

notifying the code to the input terminal equipment;

creating character information based on the requested character information; and

notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment.

20. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer, forming a character processing apparatus which is coupled to at least one input terminal equipment via a network, to carry out a plurality of steps, comprising:

receiving character information which relates to an external character from the input terminal equipment;

allocating a code to the received character information;

creating character information based on the received character information; and

notifying the created character information to the input terminal equipment.

Please **ADD** new claims 22-25 as follows:

22. (NEW) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the character processing apparatus includes a character information creating terminal equipment including said creating section.

Sub B10 23. (NEW) The character processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
an environment setting section setting an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipment.

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cancel.* 24. (NEW) The character processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said character processing apparatus further comprises:
an environment setting section setting an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipment.

25. (NEW) The character processing method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:
setting by the character processing apparatus an external character environment to be used in the input terminal equipment.